



March 30, 2017

Mr. Mark Williams  
Mailstop 3E Air Resources Board  
P.O. Box 2815  
Sacramento, CA 95812

Re: Los Angeles Deserves a VW Green City in First Funding Round

Dear Mr. Williams:

On behalf of The Playa Group, LLC, a woman owned small business, I would like to express our strong support for Los Angeles to receive one of the two Green City designations from Volkswagen in this first funding round.

The lawsuit that brought forth the settlement with Volkswagen stemmed from vehicular diesel pollution; and no place in the nation, let alone the state, has been hit harder from diesel pollution than Los Angeles. When you combine the disproportionate impact felt within our communities from diesel pollution with other CalEnviroScreen factors, LA County represents over half of the state's disadvantaged communities. No other part of the state comes close to that kind of a pollution burden.

Not only does Los Angeles have a significant need from an air quality standpoint, but Los Angeles also represents a significant market opportunity for the future of transportation electrification and the next iteration of urban mobility. The investments made by Volkswagen with the first round of funding can make a tremendous difference to propelling the region in this direction.

We recognize CARB's concern about having this investment be "transformative" by choosing a location that is not too large to enable impact to be achieved, and it is for this reason that LA submitted a proposal that would concentrate investment in communities that need it the most within LA: Downtown; South LA; Boyle Heights; Wilmington; Pacoima; and LAX. By focusing in on specific areas within an otherwise large city, the investment can achieve the best of both worlds: leveraging a large market with significant existing investment to achieve a smaller subarea impact in parts of the city that could be transformative for ZEV deployment and infrastructure.

While we appreciate the opportunity to be one of the five metro areas selected for infrastructure investment in this VW plan, we believe an investment in LA should be more significant than infrastructure alone. Selecting Los Angeles as one of the first Green Cities will enable VW to achieve



maximum impact by leveraging hundreds of millions in public and private funding (more than any other single location in the state) and mitigating diesel emissions in communities that need it the most through accelerated ZEV deployment and infrastructure buildout.

For these reasons, we urge you to include Los Angeles as one of the two Green Cities as part of the ZEV investment. Please feel free to contact me at [duane.muller@theplayagroup.com](mailto:duane.muller@theplayagroup.com) if you have any questions about our support of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Duane Muller" with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mrs. Duane Muller

President, The Playa Group, LLC